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As instance and illustration of such regulating and balancing of actions and reactions may be cited internal secretions, products of life reactions which circulate in the system and secure coordination of activities at various points within it.

Clearly the present state of our knowledge will allow only the most elementary elaboration of such a thesis. The author undertakes specifically to suggest the manner in which the lower organisms,—bacteria, algæ, etc.,—capture electric energy, heat energy, the energy of sunlight in the building up of the form of living substance.

In the second part of the book the evolution of the animal form is traced in invertebrates and chordates as shown in the geological record, in an effort to illustrate how adaptive form may arise in connection with the essential actions, reactions, and interactions. In this enterprise the author develops advantageously his well known principle of adaptive radiation in the external body form as illustrated in vertebrate evolution.

All zoologists will be grateful to the writer for putting the familiar material from a new point of view. It is a compelling and stimulating statement. More than any recent writing on the subject, this book synthesizes the evolutions of astronomy, geology, physics, chemistry and biology.

The book is a beautiful and satisfying product of evolution, both in respect to its energy and its mechanical form.

The Origin and Evolution of Life, by Henry Fairfield Osborn. Illustrated, 350 pages. Charles Scribner's Sons, 1917. Price $3.00 net.

THE MICROSCOPE

This classic manual, produced by our long-time member and past president, Professor S. H. Gage, is now in its twelfth edition. This edition, which is largely revised, differs from previous ones chiefly in the omission of matter pertaining to micro-chemistry and metallography, and in the up-to-date treatment of those elaborations of processes and apparatus that have taken place during the last ten years. These include especially,—the single objective binocular; the dark-field illuminator; apparatus making possible the application of powerful electric lights for demonstration and drawing;

improvements making for the development of photo-micrography; and the modification of artificial light to day-light perfection by glass filters.

There are twelve chapters covering the usual range of the microscopy. Each chapter is followed by a list of collateral references, and a general bibliography concludes the book. Chapter XII gives a brief history of lenses and other optical portions of the microscope.

The user of Professor Gage's book profits by the fact that the writer is always alert to the practical bearing of any development upon actual successful laboratory use rather than concerned with the mere physical or theoretical perfection of the device.

The Microscope, an Introduction to Microscopic Methods, and to Histology; by Simon Henry Gage. Twelfth Edition; 472 pages, 252 figures. Comstock Publishing Co., Ithaca, N. Y., 1917. Price $3.00.